



UPDATE

August 1, 2014

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*Prepared by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,
National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health,
Office of Constituency Relations and Public Liaison*

SCHIZOPHRENIA'S GENETIC "SKYLINE" RISING: SUSPECT COMMON VARIANTS SOAR FROM 30 TO 108

The largest genomic dragnet of any psychiatric disorder to date has unmasked 108 chromosomal sites harboring inherited variations in the genetic code linked to schizophrenia, 83 of which had not been previously reported. By contrast, the "skyline" of such suspect variants associated with the disorder contained only five significant peaks in 2011. By combining data from all available schizophrenia genetic samples, researchers supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) powered the search for clues to the molecular basis of the disorder to a new level.

Press Release: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2014/schizophrenias-genetic-skyline-rising.shtml>

COMMON GENE VARIANTS ACCOUNT FOR MOST GENETIC RISK FOR AUTISM: ROLES OF HERITABILITY, MUTATIONS, ENVIRONMENT ESTIMATED

Most of the genetic risk for autism comes from versions of genes that are common in the population rather than from rare variants or spontaneous glitches, NIH-funded researchers have found. Heritability also outweighed other risk factors in this largest study of its kind to date. About 52 percent of the risk for autism was traced to common and rare inherited variation, with spontaneous mutations contributing a modest 2.6 percent of the total risk.

Press Release: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2014/common-gene-variants-account-for-most-genetic-risk-for-autism.shtml>

HOW MIGHT NEW NEURONS BUFFER AGAINST STRESS? CLUES EMERGING FROM STUDIES IN NEW PORTER NEUROSCIENCE CENTER

Over the past decade or so, evidence has emerged suggesting that the birth of new neurons in the adult brain's memory hub, or hippocampus, may play a key role in the action of antidepressants, resilience to stress, the benefits of exercise and enriched environments, and preventing memory loss. But understanding how it might work has remained elusive. Heather Cameron, Ph.D., chief of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) intramural Unit on Neuroplasticity, discussed findings of ongoing studies on the function of adult neurogenesis in the hippocampus at a research symposium held in March, in conjunction with the formal dedication of the Porter Neuroscience Research Center on the NIH campus in Bethesda, MD, where her lab is located.

Science Update: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2014/how-might-new-neurons-buffer-against-stress.shtml>

NIH SYSTEM TO MONITOR EMERGING DRUG TRENDS; DATA FROM THE NATIONAL DRUG EARLY WARNING SYSTEM WILL PROMOTE RAPID AND EFFECTIVE PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSES

An innovative National Drug Early Warning System (NDEWS) is being developed to monitor emerging trends that will help health experts respond quickly to potential outbreaks of illicit drugs such as heroin and to identify increased use of designer synthetic compounds. The system will scan social media and Web platforms to identify new trends as well as use conventional national- and local-level data resources. The University of Maryland's Center for Substance Abuse Research will receive five years of funding from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) to develop NDEWS.

Press Release: <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/jul2014/nida-17.htm>

SUBSTANCE USE DURING CHILDHOOD OR ADOLESCENCE IS LINKED TO LONG-TERM HEALTH RISKS

The risk of developing drug dependence or abuse is greater for individuals who start using these substances in adolescence or early adolescence than for those who start during adulthood. According to a new report by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), people who start using substances at a young age are at greater risk of needing treatment later. In 2011, 74 percent of people ages 18 to 30 who were admitted for substance abuse treatment started using substances at 17 or younger. The report also showed that 10.2 percent of those admitted for treatment started using at age 11 or younger. In addition, those who start using substances at a younger age are more likely to be using more than one substance when they are admitted for treatment. More than 78 percent of those admitted who reported starting to use substances at age 11 or younger also reported abusing two or more substances when they started treatment. In contrast, for those who reported starting to use substances at age 25 to 30, less than half as many—30.4 percent—reported abusing two or more substances.

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1407174039.aspx>

HHS AWARDS \$54.6 MILLION IN AFFORDABLE CARE ACT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FUNDING; 221 HEALTH CENTERS NATIONWIDE WILL EXPAND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES USING FUNDS FROM THE HEALTHCARE LAW

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced \$54.6 million in Affordable Care Act funding to support 221 health centers in 47 states and Puerto Rico to establish or expand behavioral health services for over 450,000 people nationwide. Health centers will use these new funds for efforts such as hiring new mental health professionals, adding mental health and substance use disorder health services, and employing integrated models of primary care.

Press Release: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2014pres/07/20140731a.html>

DOJ AND HHS CALL FOR ACTION TO ADDRESS ABUSE OF OLDER AMERICANS; ELDER JUSTICE ROADMAP OUTLINES CRITICAL PATH TO COMBATING PROBLEM

Leaders in the fight against elder abuse announced a framework for tackling the highest priority challenges to elder abuse prevention and prosecution, and called on all Americans to take a stand against the serious societal problem of elder abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation. Supported by the Department of Justice and HHS, the *Elder Justice Roadmap* was developed by harnessing the expertise of hundreds of public and private stakeholders from across the country and by gathering their input. The goal of these expert summits was to identify the most critical priorities and concrete opportunities for greater public and private investment and engagement in elder abuse issues.

Press Release: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2014pres/07/20140709a.html>

RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS, TOOLKITS, OTHER RESOURCES

NEW FROM NIMH

DIRECTOR'S BLOG: MAPPING THE RISK ARCHITECTURE OF MENTAL DISORDERS

In this blog, NIMH Director Thomas Insel describes the results of two new genetics studies and why they are milestones in the understanding of the genetics of autism and schizophrenia.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2014/mapping-the-risk-architecture-of-mental-disorders.shtml>

LATEST ISSUE OF OUTREACH CONNECTION AVAILABLE

The Summer issue of *Outreach Connection*, a newsletter distributed by the NIMH Outreach Partnership Program, is now available. This issue features highlights from the Program's 2014 Annual Meeting along with activities by its Program partners distributing and using NIMH information and research throughout their states and communities. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/news-and-updates-from-the-program.shtml>

VIDEO: UNEARTHING SECRETS OF NEW NEURONS: STUDENT'S STINT AT PORTER NEUROSCIENCE CENTER LAB

A college student in neuroscience explains studies on neurogenesis that she worked on during an internship in the NIMH Unit on Neuroplasticity. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/media/2014/unearting-secrets-of-new-neurons.shtml>

NEW FROM NIH

NIDA NOTES: SELF-CONTROL PROTECTS URBAN MINORITY YOUTHS FROM DRUG USE AND DEPRESSIVE MOOD

In a cohort of urban African Americans and Puerto Ricans, high levels of self-control at age 14 were associated with low levels of both marijuana use and depressive mood up to age 29. The findings suggest that bolstering ethnic and racial minority children's and early adolescents' self-control might shield them from the burdens of drug use and depression during adolescence and young adulthood.

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/nida-notes/2014/07/self-control-protects-urban-minority-youths-drug-use-depressive-mood>

NIDA SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT: PASSIVE E-CIGARETTE EXPOSURE MAY URGE YOUNG ADULTS TO SMOKE

A new NIDA-funded study shows that being around someone who is using (vaping) an e-cigarette can trigger a desire for tobacco cigarettes in young adults who regularly smoke. This passive exposure to e-cigarette use also increased desire for an e-cigarette. These results highlight the need for more research into the effects of exposure to e-cigarettes in order to help prevent smoking in young adults.

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2014/07/passive-e-cigarette-exposure-may-urge-young-adults-to-smoke>

NCCAM RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT: MINDFULNESS MEDITATION MAY REDUCE RISK OF SUICIDAL THOUGHTS IN MIDDLE SCHOOLERS

Results of a recent pilot study suggest that middle school-aged students who meditated during a six-week, classroom-based mindfulness meditation program were significantly less likely than non-meditators to develop suicidal thoughts or self-harming thoughts or behaviors. The study also found that both mindfulness meditation and a matched activity condition showed improvements in internalizing problems, externalizing problems, attention problems, and affect, but there were no statistically significant differences between the groups. Findings from the study, co-funded by the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, were published in the *Journal of School Psychology*.

<http://nccam.nih.gov/research/results/spotlight/071514?nav=upd>

NICHD RESEARCH DEVELOPMENTS PODCAST: BULLYING DECREASES AMONG MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

This podcast from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) describes results from a new study that found that bullying among students in grades six through 10 declined significantly between 1998 and 2010. The study found that fighting among students also declined, although less dramatically. <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/news/releases/Pages/061014-podcast-bullying.aspx>

NICHD PODCAST: "COOL" KIDS MORE LIKELY TO HAVE PROBLEMS AS YOUNG ADULTS; NIH FUNDED STUDY FINDS LINK TO CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR, INCREASED SUBSTANCE USE

This NICHD podcast describes a new study of what happens to kids who reach the top of the popularity chain early in life. The study found that when “cool” teens reached adulthood, a sample of formerly cool kids were much more likely than their uncool peers to have relationship problems, major problems with alcohol and substance use, and even to have run afoul of the law.

<http://www.nichd.nih.gov/news/releases/Pages/070814-podcast-cool-kids.aspx>

NIAAA ALCOHOL ALERT: MEASURING THE BURDEN OF ALCOHOL

This Alcohol Alert from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism assesses alcohol’s burden on morbidity and mortality, separate from its role in alcohol use disorders. It details alcohol’s global, national, and local impact on health and the economy and its effect on different subpopulations, such as children and adolescents, college students, different ethnic groups, and women.

<http://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/aa87/aa87.htm>

SAMHSA RESOURCES

SAMHSA BLOG: YOUNG ADULTS WITH MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS: 7 MYTHS

When young adults with mental health challenges turn 18, they sometimes receive an unwelcome message: the news that they’re no longer eligible for services through the children’s mental health services system. Unfortunately, without proper support, many of these youth may fall through the cracks in the process of becoming an adult. In this blog post, SAMHSA Administrator Pamela Hyde dispels common myths about young adults with mental health conditions. <http://blog.samhsa.gov/2014/07/28/young-adults-with-mental-health-conditions-7-myths/>

SAMHSA BLOG: LIVING IN THE NOW: MINDFULNESS IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

SAMHSA’s Center for Mental Health Services Director Paolo del Vecchio describes mindfulness interventions which have had success improving mental health conditions such as depression and anxiety.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2014/07/24/living-in-the-now-mindfulness-in-behavioral-health/>

SAMHSA BLOG: BEHIND THE SCENES: CREATING A MOBILE APP TO TALK WITH CHILDREN ABOUT UNDERAGE DRINKING

This SAMHSA blog post describes a new online simulation tool that helps parents and caregivers practice talking with their kids about the dangers of underage drinking.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2014/07/14/behind-the-scenes-creating-a-mobile-app-to-talk-with-children-about-underage-drinking-2/>

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EQUITY RESOURCES

SAMHSA has compiled data resources on health disparities and healthcare quality among diverse populations, cultural and linguistic competency, health literacy, and health reform.

<http://beta.samhsa.gov/behavioral-health-equity/resources>

WORKING WITH UNACCOMPANIED AND IMMIGRANT MINORS

Border and immigrant youth experience various types of traumatic events, not only during their journeys but also once they have arrived at their destination, that are related to war or persecution, abuse, trafficking, and violence. These may affect their mental and physical health. SAMHSA's National Child Traumatic Stress Network has compiled resources that could be beneficial for those working with youth who have found their way to the U.S. without the presence of a caregiver.

<http://www.nctsn.org/content/working-unaccompanied-and-immigrant-minors>

ARCHIVED WEBINAR: RECOVERY TO PRACTICE CURRICULUM FOR SIX BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONS

The six *Recovery to Practice* professional disciplines have completed development of their respective curricula in recovery-oriented practice and are currently delivering the training. Each discipline—addiction counseling, peer support, psychiatry, psychiatric nursing, psychology, and social work—have designed a curriculum to provide concepts and tools to advance recovery-oriented practice. On this webinar, curriculum developers provided an overview of these training programs.

<http://www.dsgonline.com/RTP/webinars/7.28.2014.html>

ARCHIVED WEBINAR: IT TAKES A COMMUNITY: LEARNING TOGETHER ABOUT TOOLS AND STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT PEOPLE THROUGH EMOTIONAL DISTRESS

This teleconference presented tools and resources that anyone can use to support someone through an emotional crisis, or to prevent an escalation to an emotional crisis so that individuals experiencing distress no longer need to struggle in isolation. Three presenters discussed practices that can be used in communities, in families, and on university campuses to support individuals who are experiencing emotional distress, and how using these practices to offer support can help prevent escalation to emotional crisis. They identified characteristics of communities where people are supported before they act out in desperation, everyone is included and respected, and everyone makes a positive impact.

<http://promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/teleconferences/archive/training/teleconference05292014.aspx>

SPOTLIGHT ON CHILD WELFARE AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

This issue of the *Children's Bureau Express* draws attention to the co-occurrence of child maltreatment and domestic violence, points to research on case outcomes for child welfare-involved families affected by domestic violence, and highlights a factsheet series for parents about how children may respond to family violence.

<http://cbexpress.acf.hhs.gov/index.cfm?event=website.viewSection&issueID=159&subsectionID=58>

MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services released an informational bulletin highlighting the use of medications approved by the Food and Drug Administration in combination with evidence-based behavioral therapies—commonly referred to as “Medication Assisted Treatment” (MAT)—to help persons with mental health and substance use disorders recover in a safe and cost-effective manner. It provides background information about MAT, examples of state-based initiatives, and useful resources to help ensure proper delivery of these services. <http://www.medicaid.gov/Federal-Policy-Guidance/downloads/CIB-07-11-2014.pdf>

NEW FROM AHRQ

MONOGRAPH ADDRESSES MENTAL HEALTH: FIRST- VERSUS SECOND-GENERATION ANTIPSYCHOTICS

A continuing-education monograph from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) compares individual first- and second-generation antipsychotic medications in adults with schizophrenia, schizophrenia-related psychoses, or bipolar disorder. The monograph, based on a comparative effectiveness review from AHRQ’s Effective Health Care Program, reviews evidence comparing the effectiveness and side effects of individual drugs and lists questions for patients and healthcare providers to consider before choosing a treatment. <http://ahrq.cmeuniversity.com/course/disclaimer/110304>

EVIDENCE LACKING ON DEPRESSION TREATMENT FOR PREGNANT AND POSTPARTUM WOMEN

This AHRQ research review has found that there is not enough evidence to determine the relative benefits and harms of depression treatment in pregnant and postpartum women. Some of the evidence shows a higher risk of breathing difficulty in newborn children of women with depression who took selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) during pregnancy, compared with those women who did not. The review also found that there is not enough evidence to make an association between autism spectrum disorder and depression during pregnancy, antidepressant treatment, or the interaction of the two. According to the review, future research is needed to compare available treatments in groups of women with depression that takes into account the impact of dose, severity of depression, timing of diagnosis, or prior depressive episodes. <http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayproduct&productID=1928&PCem=EN>

NATIONAL PREVENTION COUNCIL’S 2014 ANNUAL STATUS REPORT

The National Prevention Council’s 2014 Annual Status Report illustrates how Council departments are working across the Federal government to incorporate health in diverse sectors like housing, transportation, and education to advance the National Prevention Strategy and influence the health of individuals, families, and communities. In addition, the report highlights how partners across the country are advancing the Strategy in organizations ranging from health care systems to workforce agencies and national foundations to local non-profits.

http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/initiatives/prevention/about/annual_status_reports.html

NEW FROM OJJDP

BULLETIN EXAMINES SUICIDAL THOUGHTS AND BEHAVIORS AMONG DETAINED YOUTH

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has released a new bulletin summarizing a study of suicidal thoughts and behaviors among detained youth ages 10 to 18 years. The authors examined rates of suicidal ideation and behaviors, the relationship between suicide attempts and psychiatric disorders, and differences by gender and race/ethnicity. The research signals the need for juvenile detention facilities to screen youth for suicide risk and increase psychiatric services.

<http://www.ojjdp.gov/enews/14juvjust/140723.html>

SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE INITIATIVE RESOURCES AVAILABLE ONLINE

OJJDP has released an online brief on the Supportive School Discipline Initiative (SSDI), a collaboration between DOJ and the Department of Education in coordination with OJJDP, HHS, and other Federal partners. SSDI supports school discipline practices that foster safe, supportive, and productive learning environments, and keep students engaged in school and out of courts. The brief provides information about SSDI and features links to research, data collection, funding, and related resources.

<http://www.ojjdp.gov/programs/SSDI.pdf>

NEW FROM REAL WARRIORS CAMPAIGN

TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

This article provides information about the types of care and treatment available for posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and how to access them.

<http://www.realwarriors.net/active/treatment/ptsdtreatment.php>

NEW VIDEO PROFILE: 1ST SGT. SIMON SANDOVAL OF THE U.S. MARINE CORPS

After losing Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan, 1st Sgt. Sandoval began drinking heavily, lost interest in maintaining his health and fitness, and pulled away from family and friends. Eventually, by opening up and sharing his experiences, he began to turn his life back around. Sandoval now encourages other service members coping with psychological health concerns to reach out for help in this new Real Warriors video profile. <http://www.realwarriors.net/multimedia/profiles/sandoval.php>

UNDERSTANDING AND USING EVIDENCE-BASED CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

Clinical practice guidelines (CPGs) are designed to help healthcare professionals and patients make informed decisions related to healthcare delivery. These guidelines serve as a tool to improve patient care and reduce variations in how care is delivered. In this article, learn about each of the guidelines available, benefits of using the guidelines, and where to access them.

<http://www.realwarriors.net/healthprofessionals/guidelines/clinical.php>

EVENTS

WEBINAR: DIVERSE PROMISING PRACTICES FOR ENGAGING YOUTH BEFORE AND DURING TIMES OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS: YOUTH, FAMILY, AND SCHOOL PERSPECTIVES

AUGUST 6, 2014, 3:00-4:30 PM ET

During this SAMHSA webinar, three speakers will describe how young adults, families, schools, and the entire community can play a part and collaborate in improving the emotional health and well-being of young people in their communities. Participants will hear how young adults are learning how to support one another, developing skills to take care of and be responsible for their own wellness, and learning how to actively and effectively participate in discussions with policymakers about issues that affect them. In addition, participants will learn about the skills parents need to acquire and practice to support their children in becoming happy and successful adults. And finally, participants will hear how one school district has adopted new practices that have led to gains in on-time graduation rates, substantial reductions in suspensions and expulsions, and other positive outcomes.

<http://promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/teleconferences/archive/training/teleconference08062014.aspx>

NIMH TWITTER CHAT: PREMENSTRUAL DYSPHORIC DISORDER

AUGUST 7, 2014, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD) is a serious condition with disabling symptoms, which include irritability, anger, depressed mood, sadness, thoughts of suicide, change in appetite, bloating, breast tenderness, and joint or muscle pain. Recently, PMDD was recognized by the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, fifth edition (DSM-5), as a mental disorder. Learn more about the symptoms, causes, and treatments for PMDD in an NIMH Twitter chat with NIMH expert Peter Schmidt, M.D., chief of the Section on Behavioral Endocrinology, who will discuss PMDD and answer related questions. Use the hashtag #NIMHchats to follow and participate in the Twitter chat. To ask questions, individuals must have a Twitter account. One can simply observe the chat taking place by entering #NIMHchats at twubs.com to view the conversation in real-time. An archive of the chat will be posted on NIMH's website following the event. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2014/nimh-twitter-chat-on-premenstrual-dysphoric-disorder.shtml>

WEBISODE: SUPPORTING FAMILIES WITH LGBTQ YOUTH

AUGUST 11, 2014, 2:00 PM ET

This SAMHSA KSOC-TV webisode will explore ways to provide effective resources and supports for families and guardians of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth. Research shows family acceptance significantly reduces the risk of suicide among young people who self-identify as LGBTQ.

<http://fda.yorkcast.com/webcast/Play/2ad6473530714d9bb0a0338b9cda98f41d>

VOICE AWARDS PROGRAM

AUGUST 13, 2014, 7:30 PM PT, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Join SAMHSA and its Voice Awards program partners at the University of California, Los Angeles to honor consumer and peer leaders and television and film professionals whose work and personal stories of resilience are educating the public about behavioral health. The Voice Awards program honors consumer and peer leaders in recovery from mental and/or substance use disorders who have played a vital role in raising awareness and understanding of behavioral health problems. The awards also recognize television and film writers and producers who have given a voice to people with behavioral health problems by incorporating dignified, respectful, and accurate portrayals of these individuals into their scripts, programs, and productions. This year, the Voice Awards is collaborating with an institute of higher education for this opportunity to learn about the experiences of young adults and others who are dealing with mental and/or substance use disorders. RSVP no later than Friday, August 8.

<https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1506331>

WEBINAR: RECOVERY-ORIENTED SERVICES FOR VETERANS

AUGUST 15, 2014, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

For many Veterans, adjustment to civilian life after military service is complicated by behavioral health issues that impact their social, vocational, financial, and physical well-being. Although a variety of support options exist, within and outside of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), tens of thousands of Veterans remain disconnected or underserved, as evidenced by elevated rates of homelessness, suicide, substance abuse, and addiction, and untreated PTSD. The purpose of this SAMHSA Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance Center Strategy webinar is to increase participants' understanding of the challenges experienced by Veterans returning home, and of the variety of community-based direct services that can effectively complement or replace VA services and supports. <http://www.icontact-archive.com/Jz2kitEJRFwKWZCZVhxxXWR2yvlGbKR?w=4>

2014 FEDERAL BULLYING PREVENTION SUMMIT: KEEPING KIDS SAFE: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN BULLYING PREVENTION

AUGUST 15, 2014, 8:30AM-5:30 PM ET

The 2014 Federal Bullying Prevention Summit will be offered as a live streaming webcast. At this Summit, the Federal Partners in Bullying Prevention aim to highlight successful strategies that support the creation of a positive school climate. The Summit will kick off with a look at current trends and data, as well as the state of the research in bullying prevention. School administrators will share their successes and lessons learned regarding their bullying prevention work. Youth, who have worked to reduce bullying in their schools and/or communities, will be participating as an integral part of the Summit. The Federal Partners will highlight recent and past accomplishments and future directions. Other topics that will be covered include cyberbullying, related bullying behaviors that impact healthy school climate, and the relationship between bullying prevention programs and school discipline. Registration for virtual participants will be available through the day of the Summit. <http://www.wciconferences.com/BullyingSummit-VirtualMeeting/index.html>

WEBINAR: MINNESOTA'S HEALTHY MINNESOTA PARTNERSHIP AND HEALTH EQUITY IN ALL POLICIES APPROACH

AUGUST 22, 2014, 3:00 PM ET

This webinar in the Federal Interagency Health Equity Team webinar series will outline the purposeful efforts in Minnesota to change the narrative about what creates health and highlight the health in all policies approach being taken by state agencies that has evolved from the use of the new narrative about health and equity.

<https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=registration.jsp&eventid=781550&sessionid=1&key=AF52CA2714D3C5FCC3AFD8F494EEA6D5&sourcepage=register>

SAVE THE DATE: WEBINARS ON THE USE OF PEER SUPPORT IN STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

PART 1: AUGUST 27, 2014, 3:00-4:30 PM ET AND PART 2: SEPTEMBER 3, 2014; 3:00-4:30 PM ET

SAMHSA and the Association of State Correctional Administrators are pleased to announce a two-part webinar series focusing on the successful and innovative use of peers in state correctional facilities. Attendees will learn about the use of peers in Special Needs Units and in Reentry Planning. The first session will highlight several exemplary programs and the second session will focus on how to fund, develop, implement, sustain, and expand these programs in correctional facilities. Save the date with additional details forthcoming. Contact: GAINS@prain.com.

RECOVERY MONTH

SEPTEMBER 2014

The 25th anniversary of Recovery Month highlights the theme, "Join the Voices for Recovery: Speak Up, Reach Out" and encourages people to openly discuss—or speak up about—mental and substance use disorders and the reality of recovery. The observance also promotes ways first responders, faith leaders, youth and young adults, and policymakers can recognize these issues and intervene—or reach out to help—others, as well as themselves. <http://www.recoverymonth.gov/>

VIRTUAL TRAINING: PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH AND RESILIENCE SUMMIT

SEPTEMBER 17-19, 2014

The Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) will host the Psychological Health and Resilience Summit for multidisciplinary military healthcare providers and line leaders. Formerly called the Warrior Resilience Conference, this cross-service training will focus on prevention and treatment of psychological health concerns affecting service members and their families, and current and evolving best practices to enhance resilience and readiness. The virtual learning environment of the summit will feature presentations, an exhibit hall, networking opportunities, resource downloads, and facilitated chat sessions. <http://www.dcoe.mil/Training/Conferences.aspx>

2ND U.S. CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN IMMIGRANT HEALTH: HEALTH BEHAVIORS OF AFRICAN IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES: CULTURE, INTEGRATION, MIGRATION

SEPTEMBER 19-21, 2014, PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The HHS Office of Minority Health Resource Center and African-serving organizations in the United States (U.S.), are hosting the 2nd U.S. Conference on African Immigrant Health to enhance the capacity of community- and faith-based organizations to address health disparities among African immigrants and refugees (African Diaspora) within the U.S. <http://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov/USCAIH2register/>

COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR AHRQ EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM REPORT

The AHRQ Effective Health Care Program encourages the public to participate in the development of its research projects. The Program uses these comments to help focus its research and ensure that the final comparative effectiveness reviews answer the most important questions that clinicians, patients, consumers, and policymakers have about a given treatment, test, or procedure. The Program is currently seeking comments for:

USE OF QUALITY MEASURES AND IMPROVED OUTCOMES IN THE SERIOUSLY MENTALLY ILL
[COMMENTS DUE AUGUST 6, 2014]

<http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayProduct&productID=1936>

THE EFFECTIVENESS AND RISKS OF LONG-TERM OPIOID TREATMENT OF CHRONIC PAIN
[COMMENTS DUE AUGUST 27, 2014]

<http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayProduct&productID=1947>

SAMHSA'S BHBUSINESS PLUS: APPLICATION DEADLINE AUGUST 15

Looking for new technical assistance and free training opportunities to improve business operations? SAMHSA's BHbusiness Plus offers mental health and addiction providers an opportunity to spend three months focused on a specific organizational business advancement. Receive robust guidance and resources around topics like third-party billing, services costing, strategic business planning, and much more. Apply by August 15, 2014 for an October start date. <http://bhbusiness.org/HOME.aspx>

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: FOSTERING INNOVATION IN RESEARCH ON REDUCING DISPARITIES IN MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE U.S

NIMH seeks input on approaches to fostering innovation and accelerating progress in the development and testing of disparity-reduction strategies related to mental health service provision, access, or outcomes in the U.S. Comments are invited from any interested parties. Responses will be accepted through August 18, 2014. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-MH-14-021.html>

COMMENT ON SAMHSA'S STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2015–2018

SAMHSA is the agency within HHS that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the Nation. Its mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities. This strategic plan outlines work to increase the awareness and improve understanding about mental and substance use disorders; promote emotional health and wellness, and the prevention of substance abuse and mental illness; increase access to effective treatment; and support recovery. Comments accepted through August 18, 2014. <http://store.samhsa.gov/leadingchange/feedback/>

SEEKING INPUT FROM THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY ON THE UPCOMING LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF ADOLESCENT SUBSTANCE USE

The NIH is exploring optimal ways to configure a large longitudinal cohort study to prospectively examine the effects of substance use on the human brain during early adolescence into young adulthood. The proposed study will recruit a large sample of children prior to substance use initiation and follow them for a decade, throughout adolescence and into young adulthood, deploying a range of neuroimaging, behavioral, and other assessment tools to monitor individual trajectories of brain development and related outcomes. NIH has issued a request for information to solicit advice for this project from the extramural research community and other stakeholders. Comments accepted through August 31, 2014.

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2014/07/seeking-input-research-community-upcoming-longitudinal-study-adolescent-substance-use>

CLINICAL TRIAL PARTICIPATION NEWS

NATIONWIDE RECRUITMENT: BIPOLAR DISORDER (ADULT) RESEARCH STUDY

BIPOLAR DISORDER & RILUZOLE (OUTPATIENT OR INPATIENT: 8 WEEKS)

This study of Riluzole (an FDA-approved drug for Lou Gehrig's disease, ALS) tests how this drug affects glutamate in the brain and improves treatment-resistant depressive symptoms (failure to reduce symptoms after taking two or more antidepressants.) Recruiting ages 18-70. [03-M-0092]

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/labs-at-nimh/join-a-study/trials/adult-studies/bipolar-depression-and-riluzole.shtml>

National Institute of Mental Health, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services.

For more information on research conducted by the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, MD click here www.nimh.nih.gov/JoinAStudy.

FUNDING INFORMATION

NEUROSCIENCE INFORMATION FRAMEWORK

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-15-009.html>

INTERVENTIONS FOR YOUTH WHO MISUSE/ABUSE PRESCRIPTION STIMULANT MEDICATIONS IN HIGH SCHOOL AND/OR COLLEGE-ATTENDING YOUTH

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=260043>



National Institute
of Mental Health

The **Outreach Partnership Program** is a nationwide outreach initiative of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) that enlists state and national organizations in a partnership to increase the public's access to science-based mental health information through partnerships with national and state nonprofit organizations. For more information about the program please visit:

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/index.shtml>. To subscribe to receive the **Update** every two weeks, go to: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/news-and-updates-from-the-program.shtml>.

The information provided in the **Update** is intended for use by NIMH Outreach Partners, National Partners and their associates for the express purpose of exchanging information that may be useful in the development of state and local mental health outreach, information, education and partnership programs.